



Agriculture Emergency Response Training (AgERT)



Course Outcomes

AgERT Course Completion

The AgERT course is the first step in preparing APHIS employees to serve as emergency responders. Upon successfully completing the AgERT course, employees will receive a certificate of completion from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Center of Domestic Preparedness. In addition, continuing education credits (CEs) will be awarded by Auburn University.

Medical Clearance, Respirator Certification, and HAZWOPER

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) respiratory protection standard 29 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1910.134 requires individuals obtain proper medical clearance before using a respirator. In addition, the OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) standard 29 CFR 1910.120 requires that all employees assigned to work at hazardous sites receive training before they are permitted to engage in emergency response operations that could expose them to hazardous substances, safety issues or situations, or health hazards. The AgERT course and the medical clearance, respirator protection, and HAZWOPER procedures employed meet these requirements to the extent that they apply.



Participants who complete the AgERT course and who have been medically cleared and fit tested for a respirator in accordance with APHIS Safety and Health policy will receive the following certifications:

- FOH-approved Medical Clearance card
- Respirator fit test certification card

For further information on medical clearances and respirator fit testing, check under the Medical and Physical Requirements link on the AgERT main page.



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE